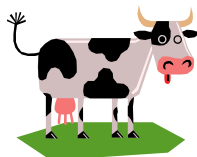


# The Kentucky Laboratory Sentinel

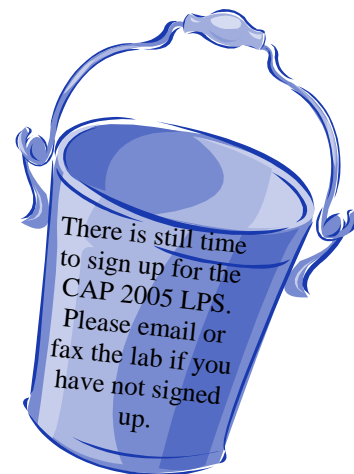
June 2004

## Simulated Exercise



Thank you for participating in our simulated exercise. We had a 50% return rate as of June 24. The most missed question was: According to the USPS, how often does a person need to be re-certified to package and ship infectious materials? The answer is...USPS follows DOT guidelines which requires certification every three years or as the regulations change.

**If shipping by air, you would use IACO/IATA guidelines and these require certification every 2 years.**



## West Nile Virus

With mosquito season here, West Nile Virus is a concern in Kentucky. West Nile infections that range from asymptomatic to mild are called West Nile Fever infections. About 20% of persons infected will have this form of the disease. However, one in 150 infected persons will develop a more severe infection, such as West Nile associated meningitis or encephalitis. At the KY State Public Health Lab, we have a menu of West Nile procedures to draw from.

If you need to send specimens for testing, please complete Lab form #275, "Viral Isolation and Immunology", for each patient. Specific information is needed to help the laboratory select the proper test/s that will provide the most reliable data in the shortest period of time. In addition to specimen collection date, symptoms, county of residence, recent travel history and mosquito contact information, as well as any flaviviruses vaccination that may have occurred, are all pieces of information that can aid in interpretation of test results.



KD Lane retired from the FBI. Please replace him with SA Jennie Blanchard and SSA Frank Doufro on your contact list.

Comments or suggestions for future communications email  
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